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PATENT
Attorney Docket No. 60053

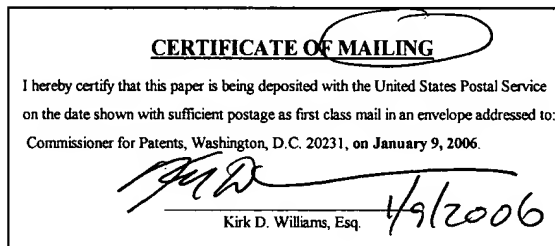# IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Patent No. 6,967,926

Confirmation No. 9879

Issued: November 22 ,2005

Name of Patentee: Williams et al.
Patent Title: METHOD AND APPARATUS
   FOR USING BARRIER PHASES TO LIMIT
   PACKET DISORDER IN A PACKET
   SWITCHING SYSTEM

REQUEST FOR CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION OF
PATENT FOR PATENT OFFICE MISTAKE (37 C.F.R. § 1.322)

Attn: Certificate of Correction Branch
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

It is requested that a Certificate of Correction be issued to correct Office mistakes found the above-identified patent. Attached hereto is a Certificate of Correction which indicates the requested correction. For your convenience, also attached are copies of selected pages (a) from the issued patent with errors highlighted, and (b) from the Notice of Allowance mailed June 22, 2005, with the correct text/instructions.
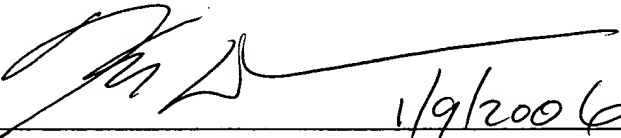
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In re US Patent No. 6,967,926

It is believed that there is no charge for this request because applicant or applicants were not responsible for such error, as will be apparent upon a comparison of the issued patent with the application as filed or amended. However, the Assistant Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any fee that may be required to Deposit Account No. 501430.

Respectfully submitted,
The Law Office of Kirk D. Williams

Date: January 9, 2006

By _____ 1/9/2006

Kirk D. Williams, Reg. No. 42,229
One of the Attorneys for Applicants
CUSTOMER NUMBER 26327
The Law Office of Kirk D. Williams
1234 S. OGDEN ST., Denver, CO 80210
303-282-0151 (telephone), 303-778-0748 (facsimile)

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UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE
CERTIFICATE OF CORRECTION

PATENT NO. : 6,967,926

DATED : November 22 ,2005

INVENTOR(S) : Williams et al.

It is certified that error(s) appear in the above-identified patent and that said Letters Patent is hereby corrected as shown below:

Col. 17, line 12, after "links;" insert the phrase -- placing input packet containing the barrier state transition request in at least each of the output queues that are occupied by at least one output packet; and --

Col 18, line 2, replace "outputs" with -- output --

MAILING ADDRESS OF SENDER:

Kirk D. Williams, Reg. No. 42,229
Customer No. 26327
The Law Office of Kirk D. Williams
1234 S. Ogden Street, Denver, CO 80210

PATENT NO. 6,967,926
No. of additional copies

⇨ NONE (0)

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17

18

7. One or more computer-readable media containing computer-executable instructions for performing steps by a switching element of a packet switching system, said steps comprising:

    maintaining a plurality of output queues for containing output packets to be sent over a plurality of outgoing links to a plurality of other components of the packet switching system

    maintaining a barrier state;

    updating the barrier state in response to receiving a barrier state transition request on each of a plurality of incoming links;

    sending said input packets over the plurality of outgoing links to the plurality of other components of the packet switching system.

8. The computer-readable media of claim **7**, wherein said sending output packets includes sending said input packet containing the barrier state transition request out each of the outgoing plurality of links.

9. The computer-readable media of claim **7**, wherein said steps comprise: sending an outgoing barrier acknowledgement message out each of the outgoing plurality of links in response to receiving an incoming barrier acknowledgement message over said each of a plurality of incoming links.

10. A switching element of a packet switching system, the switching element comprising:

means for maintaining a plurality of output queues for containing outputs packets to be sent over a plurality of outgoing links to a plurality of other components of the packet switching system

means for maintaining a barrier state;

means for updating the barrier state in response to receiving a barrier state transition request on each of a plurality of incoming links;

means for placing input packet containing the barrier state transition request in at least each of the output queues that are occupied by at least one output packet; and

means for sending output packets over the plurality of outgoing links to the plurality of other components of the packet switching system.

11. The switching element of claim **10**, wherein said means for sending output packets includes means for sending said input packet containing the barrier state transition request out each of the outgoing plurality of links.

12. The switching element of claim **10**, comprising means for sending an outgoing barrier acknowledgement message out each of the outgoing plurality of links in response to receiving an incoming barrier acknowledgement message over said each of a plurality of incoming links.

* * * * *

Claim 31: *(claim renumbered to Claim 7)*

On line 4, the term --output-- has been added before the word "packets".

On line 8, the term "and" has been deleted.

Between lines 8 and 9, the phrase --placing input packet containing the barrier state transition request in at least each of the output queues that are occupied by at least one output packet; and-- has been added.

On line 9, after "sending", the term "a" has been changed to --said input--.

Claim 32:

On line 1, after "sending", the term --output-- has been added.

On line 2, after "sending", the term "a" has been changed to --said input--.

Claim 35: *(renumbered to Claim 10)*

On line 3, the term --output-- has been added before the word "packets".

On line 8, the term "and" has been deleted.

Between lines 8 and 9, the phrase --means for placing input packet containing the barrier state transition request in at least each of the output queues that are occupied by at least one output packet; and-- has been added.

On line 9, the term --output-- has been added after the word "sending".

Claim 36: